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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE 25X1X6

SUBJECT Transfer of Hungarians from Slovakia to Bohemia

INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. 4 February 1967

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PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

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1. Dunajská Streda and vicinity are the collecting points for the transfer of Hungarians to Bohemia, which is organized by the Resettlement Office for Slovakia (osidlovaci urad). Two or three trains leave daily with 350-400 Hungarians, including whole families and their belongings.
2. Slovak authorities are transferring the poorest Hungarians who are farm laborers and own no land. Until now they have had very low standard of living, crowded into small, old, and shabby houses; therefore, these people will fare much better in Bohemia, where living conditions are better in general.
3. The transfer is obligatory, but volunteers can be found. The convoys are directed mostly to the districts of Podebrady, Němčík, Kralovice, Česlav, Tábor, Kolín, Olomoúc, etc. These districts lost many farm workers who moved into the Border Regions to take over farms formerly owned by Sudeten Germans.
4. The transfer is assisted by the Army, which supplied trucks to move the Hungarians from the villages to the railroad stations.
5. Each train consists of five heated coaches and 35 freight cars. A Red Cross nurse accompanies each convoy.
6. Very few cases of opposition against the transfer were registered. However, there was some tension in the border districts of Slovakia, where the population was influenced by the propaganda from Hungary (loudspeakers, leaflets, etc.), such as the recent statements that great disturbances took place at Dunajská Streda and that the place was burned down. However, these rumors were unfounded and conditions are normal. The Hungarians also spread rumors that the people chosen for transfer will be sent to Siberia. Consequently, some people tried to escape to Hungary.

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7. According to a high official in the Resettlement Office in Bratislava, about 400-450 convoys of Hungarians to Bohemia and Moravia are being planned. According to him, 180,000 workers already left Slovakia for Bohemia and Moravia. Slovakia can not afford to lose more Slovaks; therefore, it is necessary to transfer Hungarians instead of Slovaks. Most of these Hungarians have Slovak and Czech names and are of Slovak birth. In case that the dispute between Czechoslovakia and Hungary concerning the exchange of populations is favorably solved, these Hungarians from Bohemia and Moravia will be transferred to Hungary. Otherwise, they will stay at their present place. Several spokesmen of the Resettlement Office expressed the opinion that these Hungarians will be very easily assimilated.

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CLASSIFICATION SHEET

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